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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RTID 0648-XB313

Permanent Advisory Committee to Advise the U.S. Commissioners to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission; Meeting Announcement

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces a public meeting of the Permanent Advisory Committee (PAC) to advise the U.S. Commissioners to the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC) on October 13-15, 2021. Meeting topics are provided under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

DATES: The meeting of the PAC will be held on October 13, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hawaii Standard Time (HST) (or until business is concluded), October 14, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. HST (or until business is concluded), and October 15, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. HST (or until business is concluded). Members of the public may submit written comments on meeting topics or materials; comments must be received by October 8, 2021.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be conducted via a web conference. For details on how to join the web conference, call in, or to submit comments, please contact Emily Reynolds, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office; telephone: 808-725-5039; email: emily.reynolds@noaa.gov. Documents to be considered by the PAC will be sent out via email in advance of the web conference. Please submit contact information to Emily Reynolds (telephone: 808-725-5039; email: emily.reynolds@noaa.gov) at least 3 days in

advance of the web conference to receive documents via email. This meeting may be recorded for the purposes of generating notes of the meeting and participation in the web conference constitutes consent to the recording.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Emily Reynolds, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office; 1845 Wasp Blvd., Bldg. 176, Honolulu, HI 96818; telephone: 808-725-5039; facsimile: 808-725-5215; email: emily.reynolds@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act (16 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.), the PAC has been formed to advise the U.S. Commissioners to the WCPFC. The PAC is composed of: (i) not less than 15 nor more than 20 individuals appointed by the Secretary of Commerce in consultation with the U.S. Commissioners to the WCPFC; (ii) the chair of the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council's Advisory Committee (or the chair's designee); and (iii) officials from the fisheries management authorities of American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands (or their designees). The PAC supports the work of the U.S. National Section to the WCPFC in an advisory capacity. The U.S. National Section is made up of the U.S. Commissioners and the Department of State. NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office provides administrative and technical support to the PAC in cooperation with the Department of State. More information on the WCPFC, established under the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, can be found on the WCPFC website: http://www.wcpfc.int.

Meeting Topics

The PAC meeting topics may include the following: (1) outcomes of the 2020 annual session of the WCPFC and 2021 sessions of the WCPFC Scientific Committee, Northern Committee, and Technical and Compliance Committee; (2) issues to be

considered in the WCPFC 2021 annual session; (3) potential U.S. proposals to the WCPFC 2021 annual session; and (4) other issues.

Special Accommodations

The web conference is accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign

language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Emily Reynolds at

808-725-5039 by September 29, 2021.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 6902 et seq.

Dated: August 10, 2021.

Kelly Denit,

Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,

National Marine Fisheries Service.

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